

air on Capitol Hill and when he spoke, people listened.

Cope will be greatly missed and never forgotten. My thoughts are with his wife Terrie as well as the people of Lemhi County.

HONORING BROWNSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor four courageous police officers, who risked their lives providing aid to two people who escaped a burning car and rescuing another two people from the car on January 28, 2023, in Brownsville, Texas.

Brownsville, Texas is home to over 187,000 residents who are served by the Brownsville Police Department. Their unwavering commitment to the protection of our communities was put on nationwide display when Brownsville was named the 16th safest city in the United States. Their work was more recently recognized due to the lifesaving cooperation between the Brownsville PD and other emergency services personnel on January 28.

At the 2:00 a.m. hour of January 28, first responders were called to the scene of a single-vehicle crash. When the officers arrived, they discovered the vehicle had been flipped over. While 2 men had managed to escape with noticeable injuries, there was a time-sensitive emergency still happening in the vehicle. The officers were notified of 2 others still trapped in the burning vehicle and they quickly reacted to save their lives. Body cam footage showed the dramatic situation as police officers pulled these 2 men to safety, who were actively being burned inside the vehicle, which was still engulfed in flames.

With amazing assistance from the Brownsville Fire Department, Patrol Officer Erik Balboa, Officer Erick Amaro, Officer Federico Jaramillo, and Officer Gilberto Hernandez were able to breach the burning vehicle's doors and save the people in the car.

Our first responders are often unsung heroes, but today we get the amazing opportunity to praise and thank the Brownsville Police Department for their heroic work and for their constant commitment to the safety and security of South Texas.

Mr. Speaker, Officers Balboa, Amaro, Jaramillo, and Hernandez, the Brownsville Police Department, and all first responders who dedicate their lives to our amazing communities, and thank them. I have no doubt that these heroes will continue to go above and beyond to provide lifesaving support to those in need, and I am forever thankful for their service to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CAREER OF WILLIAM LOUSHINE

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William "Bill" Loushine, who

died February 26 in Chisholm at the age of 102. Bill graduated from Chisholm High School in 1939 and received his BS degree in 1943 from the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse. During WWII, Bill served as a first lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in the South Pacific and as company commander of the Chisholm Army National Guard Unit, where he was recalled to active duty during the Korean War with the 47th Infantry Division of the Minnesota Army National Guard. Upon his return from Korea in 1953, he continued to serve in the National Guard for 25 years, retiring with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Bill was a teacher and a coach in Chisholm for 36 years. He coached swimming, baseball, and curling. He was the coach of Chisholm's 1948 state championship winning baseball team, and the 1963 state championship curling team. Bill started a junior bonspiel in Chisholm in 1963 and continued to run it for 20 years until 1983. While in his 80s, Bill wrote a 32-page history of the Chisholm Curling Club from 1960 to 2010. This book has allowed Chisholm's flourished curling history to live on. Bill continued to curl well into his 90s.

Bill was devout in his faith. He served on the liturgy and pastoral councils in the St. Joseph's Parish, and as a commentator, lector, and Eucharistic minister, as well. Bill served for many years in the Charter and Planning Commission and as Citizens Committee Director in the Department of Military Affairs. All these accolades serve as a testament to Bill's commitment to community engagement and the Iron Range. I had the pleasure of meeting Bill when I presented him with a flag that was flown over the Capitol in honor of his 100th birthday 2 years ago. His service to his country and his community made our Nation and our State a better place to live. I thank Bill. The Iron Range has truly lost a giant. Rest in peace.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD INSPECTOR GENERAL ACT OF 2023

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board Inspector General Act of 2023, which would create an independent Inspector General (IG) for the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB). The FRTIB administers the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), the retirement savings and investment plan for federal employees.

On June 1, 2022, the FRTIB launched a new system with the goal of modernizing TSP's recordkeeping, improving customer service and bolstering cybersecurity. There have been widespread problems with the new system, including account access, account balances, missing or incomplete information in accounts and hours-long wait times to reach customer service. While many problems have been fixed, problems remain.

As of December 2022, TSP had approximately 6.8 million participants and \$765,154,000,000 in assets, making it the world's largest defined contribution plan. Fed-

eral employees dedicate their careers to serving our country, and they deserve a retirement savings and investment plan that provides top-tier customer support and security.

While the Employee Benefits Security Administration has oversight responsibility for TSP, as it does for private sector 401(k) plans, there is currently no IG for the FRTIB. The problems with the new TSP system are evidence enough that the FRTIB needs an independent IG.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND LIFE ACHIEVEMENTS OF PHILIP INNES ESCHBACH, JR., "THE COLONEL"

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a true southern gentleman and patriot of great distinction, Mr. Philip Innes Eschbach, Jr., affectionately known as "The Colonel".

During World War II, Mr. Eschbach was stationed in Dijon, France, where, despite the odds of survival, he piloted a B-26 Martin Marauder on 56 bomber flights against the Axis in Italy and France.

During the war he received the French Croix de Guerre. More recently, on May 4, 2013, he was further personally honored by the French government for his heroic deeds in the liberation of their country when they made him an honorary commandant. His daughter, Mary, coordinated his itinerary, and his son, Phil, accompanied him on his trip back to France for the festivities.

After the war, Mr. Eschbach earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Florida. He became active in community affairs and began teaching school. Katie, I, and many others were fortunate enough to have him as an English teacher before he went on to teach in high school and college.

He never shared any of his war experiences with his students, and they were unknown to me, until he wrote his memoirs in 2004 in a book titled, THE KICKING MULES.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing this hero, dedicated teacher, friend, and role model to so many, congratulations for completing another mission—his upcoming 100th orbit around the Sun.

Happy Birthday to the Colonel.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF SEN. MITCH MCCONNELL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my Kentucky colleague in the Senate Chamber, Republican Leader MITCH MCCONNELL who recently became the longest-serving party leader in American history. On January 3, 2023, Senator MCCONNELL surpassed the record held by